

This term Primary 3 have been developing their woodwork skills. We've been building Cribs showing the nativity scene in time for Christmas. We've had to learn how to measure accurately and how to use a saw safely. We've also learnt how to make strong squares and cuboids using card triangles and glue. To help us learn where the wood we used comes from and is processed, we visited a local sawmill!

P3/4 have had a very busy term. In Social Studies we have been learning about The Rainforest. We were very lucky to have Zoolab visit us with lots of creatures that we might find in a rainforest. We met a giant African land snail, a cockroach, a tarantula, a snake and a frog. It was very exciting but a little scary too. We have also created a wonderful display of a rainforest in our classroom with the help of our Art teacher Miss Goodwin.

Primary 4/5 have been learning about transport this term. We looked at how transport developed over time and at transport in our local community. The children all made fantastic models of their choice of a mode of transport and they did really well in sharing their work with the class. We had great fun designing our own luxury means of transport for the future.

Primary 6 have enjoyed many aspects of learning this term. In numeracy and maths, they have enjoyed learning more about multiplication and division as well as making 3D shapes. Creating posters in writing has been exciting as well. Pupils enjoyed taking part in a drama activity where pupils had to take on a variety of roles! The children have really enjoyed our topic of Natural Disasters. Primary 6 had a fantastic time during their orienteering trips to Penicuik - they even wrote some letters to Mrs Lockhart letting her know what they had been up to!

Primary Seven have had a busy term full of exciting events and achievements. Our whole class have been privileged with the role of prefect and have been working hard to become responsible role models. Across this term we have volunteered their time to read to the children in the lower years classes. This has provided all children involved the opportunity to further develop positive relationships across the school. We held a successful bake sale where we raised £100.06 towards camp in April.

The staff and pupils of our school would like to wish all our families and carers Merry Christmas.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12 NOON ON FRIDAY 19TH DECEMBER AND PUPILS RETURN TO SCHOOL ON TUESDAY 6TH JANUARY AT 8.50AM.**

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**Caring at, Sharing at, Learning at...St. Luke's!**

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### **Christmas Fayre**

Our annual Christmas Fayre was held on Thursday 4th December in school. The evening was a huge success and was well attended by members of our school and local community. This event was planned for and ran by our Parent Council. On behalf of our whole school community I would like to thank them for all their hard work leading up to the event and for making it such a success on the night! Thank you also to all of those who volunteered and to everyone who attended on the night!

The Christmas Fayre has raised a total so far of £1145!!! This is a fantastic amount and makes a significant contribution to our fundraising for more playground equipment.

The Parent Council will be holding a Race Night in February to raise more funds for our playground. Please buy a ticket and come along and show your support!

### **School Website**

Parents and carers may have noticed that the school has not been uploading information to our school website in recent weeks. Our current school website has closed and staff have just received training on our new school website. We have to create our new school website now and hope to launch this to parents and families in the New Year. We will inform you as soon as the new website is live! We apologise for any inconvenience as we move to our new site.

### **Christmas Lunch**

As is now tradition in St. Luke's the whole school had our Christmas Lunch together on Wednesday 10th December. It was fantastic to see our staff and pupils enjoying a special occasion together! Our pupils and staff looked fantastic in their festive clothing!!

Lunch was fantastic as always!! As a school we would like to thank our kitchen staff for such a fantastic lunch!

### **Mass at Christmas**

Mass will be celebrated on Christmas Eve in the Parish of St Luke and St Anne. A service of carols and readings will commence at 6pm with the Blessing of the Crib and the First Mass of Christmas commencing at 6.30pm. All of our families are warmly invited to this celebration.

### **Finance Week**

Our whole school will be participating in Financial Education Week from the 12th to 16th January 2015. Pupils will experience a range of financial and money based activities during this week. We would like to invite parents/family members to come in to school to share with pupils how money/finance is part of your work life. It would be fantastic to see as many parents as possible, with a wide range of careers represented.

If you would like more information or would like to participate, please contact the school office.

### **Cycle Friendly Schools Award**

Our school has successfully achieved a Cycle Friendly Schools Award. This recognises that as a school we promote cycling and cycle safety to our pupils, staff and families, as well as having facilities on site to accommodate cyclists.

Our award was presented to us at assembly on Monday 8th December by Councillor Rosie and Midlothian School Travel Plan Coordinator, Gillian Bathgate. We are very proud of our achievement and hope to continue to promote cycling with our pupils in school.

### **Adverse Weather**

Please note that in times of adverse weather there is a clear plan for gritting and snow clearing in school. This covers the main entrances in the first instance. The school will text parents to inform them if pupil entrances are unavailable. This would mean pupils accessing school from the main entrance.

### **Class News**

This term Primary 1 have been learning about the Nativity story. All children have enjoyed discussing, sequencing and retelling the Nativity story in a variety of ways. The children are excited to demonstrate their learning through participating in the school Nativity, 'Prickly Hay'.

Primary 2 have been showing off their singing and dancing talents whilst rehearsing for the Nativity play this term. They have also really enjoyed learning to speak French and can now count to 10 and describe the weather. The children have been learning some dances in PE and particularly enjoyed learning a partner dance from Poland and a line dance from America. Pupils have made great progress in writing and have been impressing their teacher and learning assistants with their fantastic, imaginative stories.